IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

ELENA BOTTS, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

No. 1:20-cv-1335-ELH

Stipulated Confidentiality Order

v.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,

Defendant.

* * * * * * * * * * *

Whereas, the parties have stipulated that certain discovery material be treated as confidential;

Accordingly, it is this day of February, 2022, by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, ORDERED:

- 1. Designation of Discovery Materials as Confidential. All documents produced in the course of discovery, all Answers to Interrogatories, all Answers to Requests for Admission, all Responses to Requests for Production of Documents, and all deposition testimony and deposition exhibits shall be subject to this Order concerning confidential information, as set forth below:
 - (a) The designation of confidential information shall be made by placing or affixing on the document, in a manner which will not interfere with its legibility, the word "CONFIDENTIAL." One who provides material may designate it as "CONFIDENTIAL" only when such person in good faith believes it contains sensitive personal information, trade secrets or other confidential research, development,

"education records" as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, et seq. ("FERPA"), or commercial information which is in fact confidential. A party shall not routinely designate material as "CONFIDENTIAL," or make such a designation without reasonable inquiry to determine whether it qualifies for such designation. Except for documents produced for inspection at the party's facilities, the designation of confidential information shall be made prior to, or contemporaneously with, the production or disclosure of that information. In the event that documents are produced for inspection at the party's facilities, such documents may be produced for inspection before being marked confidential. Once specific documents have been designated for copying, any documents containing confidential information will then be marked confidential after copying but before delivery to the party who inspected and designated the documents. There will be no waiver of confidentiality by the inspection of confidential documents before they are copied and marked confidential pursuant to this procedure.

- (b) Portions of depositions of a party's present and former officers, directors, employees, agents, experts, and representatives shall be deemed confidential only if they are designated as such when the deposition is taken or within seven business days after receipt of the transcript. Any testimony which describes a document which has been designated as "CONFIDENTIAL," as described above, shall also be deemed to be designated as "CONFIDENTIAL."
- (c) Information or documents designated as confidential under this Order shall not be used or disclosed by the parties or counsel for the parties or any persons identified in subparagraph (d) below for any purposes whatsoever other than preparing for and

conducting the litigation in which the information or documents were disclosed (including appeals). The parties shall not disclose information or documents designated as confidential to putative class members not named as plaintiffs in putative class litigation unless and until one or more classes has/have been certified.

- (d) The parties and counsel for the parties shall not disclose or permit the disclosure of any documents or information designated as confidential under this Order to any other person or entity, except that disclosures may be made in the following circumstances:
 - (i) Disclosure may be made to counsel and employees of counsel for the parties who have direct functional responsibility for the preparation and trial of the lawsuit. Any such employee to whom counsel for the parties makes a disclosure shall be provided with a copy of, and become subject to, the provisions of this Order requiring that the documents and information be held in confidence.
 - (ii) Disclosure may be made only to employees of a party required in good faith to provide assistance in the conduct of the litigation in which the information was disclosed.
 - (iii) Disclosure may be made to court reporters engaged for depositions and those persons, if any, specifically engaged for the limited purpose of making photocopies of documents. Prior to disclosure to any such court reporter or person engaged in making photocopies of documents, such person must agree to be bound by the terms of this Order.
 - (iv) Disclosure may be made to consultants, investigators, or experts

 (hereinafter referred to collectively as "experts") employed by the parties or

 counsel for the parties to assist in the preparation and trial of the lawsuit. Prior to

- disclosure to any expert, the expert must be informed of the provisions of this Order requiring that the documents and information be held in confidence and sign a copy of Exhibit A.
- (e) Except as provided in subparagraph (d) above, counsel for the parties shall keep all documents designated as confidential which are received under this Order secure within their exclusive possession and shall take reasonable efforts to place such documents in a secure area.
- (f) All copies, duplicates, extracts, summaries, or descriptions (hereinafter referred to collectively as "copies") of documents or information designated as confidential under this Order or any portion thereof shall be immediately affixed with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" if that word does not already appear.
- 2. Confidential Information Filed with Court. To the extent that any materials subject to this Confidentiality Order (or any pleading, motion, or memorandum disclosing them) are proposed to be filed or are filed with the Court, those materials and papers, or any portion thereof which discloses confidential information, shall be filed under seal (by the filing party) with the Clerk of the Court with a simultaneous motion pursuant to L.R. 104.13(c) (hereinafter the "Interim Sealing Motion"), in accordance with the current version of the Court's Electronic Filing Requirements and Procedures for Civil Cases. The Interim Sealing Motion shall be governed by L.R. 105.11. Even if the filing party believes that the materials subject to the Confidentiality Order are not properly classified as confidential, the filing party shall file the Interim Sealing Motion; provided, however, that the filing of the Interim Sealing Motion shall be wholly without prejudice to the filing party's rights under paragraph (4) of this Confidentiality Order.

- 3. Party Seeking Greater Protection Must Obtain Further Order. No information may be withheld from discovery on the ground that the material to be disclosed requires protection greater than that afforded by paragraph (1) of this Order unless the party claiming a need for greater protection moves for an order providing such special protection pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c).
- 4. Challenging Designation of Confidentiality. A designation of confidentiality may be challenged upon motion. The burden of proving the confidentiality of designated information remains with the party asserting such confidentiality. The provisions of Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(a)(5) apply to such motions.
- 5. Return of Confidential Material at Conclusion of Litigation. At the conclusion of the litigation, all material treated as confidential under this Order and not received in evidence shall be returned to the originating party. If the parties so stipulate, the material may be destroyed instead of being returned. The Clerk of the Court may return to counsel for the parties, or destroy, any sealed material at the end of the litigation, including any appeals.

Case 1:20-cv-01335-JRR Document 74 Filed 02/16/22 Page 6 of 7 Case 1:20-cv-01335-ELH Document 73 Filed 02/15/22 Page 6 of 7

Date: February 15, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John Soumilas

Francis Mailman Soumilas, P.C. James A. Francis (*pro hac vice*) John Soumilas (*pro hac vice*) Edward H. Skipton (*pro hac vice*) 1600 Market Street, Suite 2510 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Telephone: (215) 735-8600

Facsimile: (215) 940-8000 Email: jfrancis@consumerlawfirm.com

Email: jfrancis@consumerlawfirm.com Email: jsoumilas@consumerlawfirm.com Email: eskipton@consumerlawfirm.com

Kevin Mallon (pro hac vice)
Francis Mailman Soumilas, P.C.
One Liberty Plaza, Suite 2301
New York, NY 10006
(646) 759-3663
E-mail: consumer.esq@outlook.com

Courtney L. Weiner (#19463)
Law Office of Courtney Weiner PLLC
1629 K Street NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006
PH: 202-827-9980
cw@courtneyweinerlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

/s/ Jonathan Cooper

Jonathan Cooper (Bar No. 21345)
QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &
SULLIVAN, LLP
1300 I Street NW, Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20005
Tel. (202) 538-8000
Fax (202) 538-8100
jonathancooper@quinnemanuel.com

Kathleen M. Sullivan (pro hac vice)
Shon Morgan (pro hac vice)
Crystal Nix-Hines (pro hac vice)
Marina Lev (pro hac vice)
QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART &
SULLIVAN, LLP
865 S. Figueroa St., 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Tel. (213) 443-3000
Fax (213) 443-3100
kathleensullivan@quinnemanuel.com
shonmorgan@quinnemanuel.com
crystalnixhines@quinnemanuel.com
marinalev@quinnemanuel.com

Attorneys for Defendant, Johns Hopkins University

Ellen Hallander/Krw UNITED STATES [DISTRICT] [MAGISTRATE] JUDGE

<u>EXHIBIT A</u> ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY ORDER

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Stipulated Confidentiality Order entered in the above captioned matter, understand its terms, agree to be bound by each of those terms, and agree to submit myself to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, for the purposes of enforcing the terms of the Protective Order.

Specifically, and without limitation upon such terms, I further agree that I will not disseminate, use, or disclose any Confidential material protected by the Confidentiality Order that I have received and/or reviewed in this case to anyone other than as permitted by Paragraph 1 of the Confidentiality Order.

Printed name:			
Title:			
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Address:			
 			
Signature:	 	_	
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Date:			